

Message Text

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R 280905Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9280

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2863

FOR ANDREWS FROM SIMONS, EUR/EE THREE COPIES ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN RO
SUBJ: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. PARENTAL CONSENT FOR MARRIAGES (STATE 99881). ROMANIAN PROCEDURES IN MARRIAGE CASES ARE UNCLEAR, IF NOT PURPOSELY OBSCURE, EVEN FOR CLOSE OBSERVERS LIKE OURSELVES. THE ONLY WAY WE FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON IN MOST CASES IS TO BE TOLD VERBALLY, WITH REGARD TO SPECIFIC CASES ON WHICH WE HAVE INTERVENED, THAT PARENTAL CONSENT, OCCUPATION OR SOME OTHER FACTOR IS THE PROBLEM. WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY AWARE OF CASES WHERE MARRIAGE HAS BEEN APPROVED WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT, BUT CONVERSELY WE ARE AWARE OF ONLY ONE CASE WHERE PARENTAL CONSENT IS THE PROBLEM ALLEGED: ESPEY/IONESCU. IN RECENT DISCUSSION OF THIS CASE WITH PASSPORT DIRECTOR POPESCU, HE INDICATED CLEARLY THAT CONSENT OF FIANCEE'S FATHER IS THE OBSTACLE TO APPROVAL. HOWEVER, HE ALSO APPEARED TO AGREE TENTATIVELY TO INFORM CONSUL WHEN PARENTAL CONSENT IS ROADBLOCK IN OTHER CASES. EMBASSY WILL BE PURSUING MATTER IN FURTHER ENCOUNTERS WITH POPESCU (AMBASSADOR IS NOW PLANNING A CALL ON HIM), AND WILL REPORT. ADDITIONALLY, WE WILL BE ANNOTATING EACH NEW MARRIAGE CASE FILE AT TIME IT IS STARTED TO INDICATE WHETHER PARENTS APPROVE OF MARRIAGE.

2. FOR SAM FROMOWITZ AND JAY BURGESS. EMIL RETURNED TO
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BUCHAREST WITH SOME INFO ON RESULTS OF AVRAM/MARGARITESCU/CHEMICAL MINISTRY MISSIONS, AND WE ARE SEEKING TO FLESH OUT OUR VIEW

OF OVERALL EFFECT--IN TERMS OF CONTRACTS SIGNED, COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN ETC.--THROUGH OUR CONTACTS AT MFT AND MACHINE BUILDING HERE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF JAY COULD GET TOGETHER WITH NAPOLEON FODOR TO SAME END: HE SET UP MOST APPOINTMENTS AND

ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT AND MINISTER ON SOME, AND YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET COMPLETE REPORT FASTER FROM HIM THAN WE CAN HERE.

3. DANA ARRIVED SAFELY AND IN GOOD SPIRITS, AND DID NOT APPEAR OVERWHELMED WITH WELCOMING COMMITTEE (OF ONE) IN INNER SANCTUM OF OTOPENI, WHICH SERVED AT LEAST TO STEER HER THROUGH DELIGHTED OFFICIALDOM INTO ARMS OF REAL WELCOMING COMMITTEE OUTSIDE. WE'LL BE SEEING MORE OF HER BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER MY RETURN.

4. WITH NORRIS GARNETT AT THE PAO CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS, EMIL CASTRO WILL BE ACTING DCM UNTIL JOHN TIPTON TAKES OVER ON MONDAY FOR THE DURATION TIL MAY 7 WHILE LEE SANDERS AND I ARE IN GARMISCH. BOTH MONDAY AND TUESDAY ARE OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS HERE BUT C&R WILL BE OPEN MORNINGS TO CLEAR TRAFFIC.
AGGREY

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